



# DISTRICT 9690 ROTARACT NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, July 2009

Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the District 9690 Rotaract Newsletter for the Rotary year 2009-2010.

Firstly I would like to say a big thank you to all those Rotaractors and friends who came along to the District changeover on 4<sup>th</sup> July at Panthers. It was a great night and it was great to see that we had representatives from both Rotaract Clubs there on the night. Welcome to the new Rotaract District board members: Dave Mahoney, Nick Noel, Ruth Erickson and Phil McLeod-Antoniolli. Welcome also to Solomon Donald, President of Burwood Rotaract Club and Amanda Woods, President of Gunargarang Rotaract Club and their respective boards.

The Rotary International theme for this year is '*the future of Rotary is in your hands*'. The same could be said for Rotaract, in that the future of Rotaract is in our hands. The start of the new Rotary year provides a good time to stop and take a look at our clubs, are we achieving our goals, are we having fun while achieving these goals and encouraging new people to join our club? It is up to each one of us to actively seek and encourage other young people to join Rotaract, whether they join one of the 2 existing clubs or help to form a new Rotaract club.

I would like to thank Michelle Skeats from Burwood Rotaract Club for her excellent presentation about Rotaract at a recent interest meeting for a Rotaract Club in the Blacktown area. The Rotary Club of Blacktown City are keen to start a new Rotaract Club in the Blacktown area and further interest meetings have been organised.

This year is shaping up to be a busy year within Rotaract. Lets show everyone that '*the future of Rotary is in your hands*'.

*Alana Wilson*  
*District Rotaract Representative*

## BURWOOD ROTARACT NEWS

This year, both the Burwood and Gunargarang Rotaract clubs plan to hold Mental Health Forums in their local areas. The idea for the forums originated from *Australian Rotary Health*, with emphasis placed on bringing together the local community to allow the recognition and discussion of mental health issues. The Bureau of Statistics estimates that mental health problems affected 20% of the adult population in 2007 and roughly 26.4% of youth aged 18-26. This is a major issue, especially among youth that often goes unnoticed due to lack of accurate information of community concurrence.

The two Mental Health Forums, targeted towards youth and their families, aim to combat this by allowing the local community a chance to discuss issues with professional doctors, carers and consumers. The forums will be available to the local community free of charge and will be held early in September, with Burwood holding theirs on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. Contact information will be available soon.

*Solomon Donald*  
*President Burwood Rotaract Club*

## GUNARGARANG ROTARACT NEWS

Gunargarang will be holding their annual changeover dinner on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August at Danny's on High, 562 High St, Penrith. 6pm for 6:30pm start. Cost is \$35. Dress is semi-formal. RSVP by Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July and payment due prior to the event.

Contact: Tara Pullen  
Mobile: 0411 950 118  
Email: [tarapullen@hotmail.com](mailto:tarapullen@hotmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP AND EXTENSION MONTH

**August** is Membership and Extension Month. Why not hold a Rotaract information evening and invite young people from your local area along or ask each member to invite a friend along to a meeting. You never know, they may just become new members.

## NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

**September** is New Generations Month. Why not be a guest speaker at your sponsor Rotary Club or volunteer to be a guest speaker at a Rotary Club who does not have a Rotaract Club yet.

## ROTARACT FACTS

Here are some suggestions for answering common questions about Rotaract.

*What is Rotaract?*

- A service organisation for young adults between the ages of 18-30.

- Rotaract clubs are part of the global effort to bring about peace and international understanding to the world.

*Who are Rotaractors?*

- Young professionals and university students.

*What does Rotaract do?*

- Rotaract Clubs organise a variety of projects and activities, depending primarily on the interests of the club members.
- All clubs undertake 3 types of activities in varying degrees: professional development, leadership development and service projects.

*How is Rotaract different from Rotary?*

- Rotaractors are aged between 18-30.
- While each Rotaract Club is sponsored by a local Rotary Club, Rotaract Clubs conduct their own programs and service activities.

## CALENDAR

### 2009

Burwood Club Meeting	7pm, Thur 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Burwood RSL Club, Burwood
Gunargarang Club Changeover	6pm, Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Danny's on High, Penrith
Rotaract District Board Meeting	8pm, Tue 11 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Parramatta Leagues Club
President's Meeting	6:30pm, Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Panthers, Penrith
Gunargarang Club Meeting	8pm, Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Blaxland Tavern, Blaxland

Burwood Club Meeting	7pm, Thur 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sep	Burwood RSL Club, Burwood
Gunargarang's Mental Health Forum	TBA (1 <sup>st</sup> week Sep)	TBA
Gunargarang Club Meeting	8pm, Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Leonay Golf Club, Emu Plains
Burwood's Mental Health Forum	Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Sep	TBA
Rotaract District Board Meeting	8pm, Tue 15 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Leonay Golf Club, Emu Plains
Gunargarang Club Meeting	8pm, Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Sep	Blaxland Tavern, Blaxland

Burwood Club Meeting	7pm, Thur 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Burwood RSL Club, Burwood
Gunargarang Club Meeting	8pm, Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Leonay Golf Club, Emu Plains
President's Meeting	6:30pm, Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Panthers, Penrith
Gunargarang Club Meeting	8pm, Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Blaxland Tavern, Blaxland

### 2010

District Conference	19 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Forster Services Club
International Convention	20 <sup>th</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Montreal, Canada